# NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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## NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

### INDIAN CORN—ROTATION, &c.

MR BRECK—In the N. E. Farmer of the 17th inst., Mr Allen has made some remarks upon a communication of mine, as published in your paper of the 3d inst. I regret that any of his remarks should require a reply from me, but some of his assumptions are of such a nature, that I cannot consistently let them pass without briefly noticing them.

Mr Allen says: "On review, he (L. B.) may find it expressly stated that his first planting was probably close enough for the character and preparation of the soil." I am very willing to admit that, but I believe that the quality and preparation of the soil was fully equal to that of nine-tenths of all the land planted with corn in this section of the country, and I think Mr A. will grant that it is better that but one suffer by "wrong inferences" than that nine should.

I am sorry to learn that in his county, there is more of "truth than poetry" in his statement about the New York wagon and the width between the rows of corn, as planted by some of the farmers there.

Mr A. says: "On two points, Mr B. and myself are manifestly at issue. He *thinks* it is not a very censurable practice to plant Indian corn a succession of years in the same field, and on this subject his opinion is decidedly supported by the editor of the N. E. Farmer." I think Mr Allen has a very singular way of arriving at conclusions, for I expressly stated "that I was no advocate for planting the same land to corn year after year," and my practice is almost invariably against such a course. But there are a vast many intelligent farmers that do plant the same land two years in succession, and the reasons they assign for such a course are, that the land the second year is more easily plowed, planted and hoed; that they get as good or better crops, and suffer less by cut-worms and other "enemies of the corn plant." Experience has satisfied them of the propriety of such a course, and I shall not take it upon myself to censure them.

Mr A. says: "There is no occasion for me to undertake a defence of the philosophy that teaches the doctrine of poisonous influences from the excrementitious matters that have issued from plants of the same kind." The philosophy above alluded to, I presume, is the excretory theory of plants, as it is called. "This theory, supported by the high authority of Decandolle, and illustrated by the apparently convincing experiments of Macaire, has more recently been met by counter experiments of Braconnot, and is now in a great measure rejected by many eminent vegetable physiologists. It may, indeed, be considered as quite certain, that the application of this theory by Decandolle and others, to the explanation of the benefits arising from a rotation of crops, is not confirmed, or *proved* to be correct, by any experiments on the subject that have hitherto been published."

I saw, yesterday, a patch of a few square rods of thrifty looking corn, in the garden of Dr. Eaton, in the village near my place, and the Dr. assured me that the same plat of ground had been planted with corn for ten years in succession; but he has annually manured the land. Another neighbor of mine, who was in western New York a few years since, informs me he saw a field of very heavy corn, which he was told by the owner was the tenth crop in succession, without any manure having been used in the whole time. Some 15 or 18 years since, I read the Rev. T. Flint's History of the West, and if I am not very much at fault in my memory, he states that in some of the old French settlements, Indian corn had been grown on the same land for a hundred years in succession. In the spring of 1838, I plowed up a piece of pasture land, and planted with corn—used no manure, except a small quantity of plaster and ashes. The next spring, sowed with wheat and clover, herds-grass and redtop seed. The clover has very greatly predominated over the other grasses, and this is the fifth year of mowing, and the clover crop is nearly as heavy as in any former year; but as it is on rather a steep hill-side, *perhaps* the poisonous excrements of the clover have been annually washed out of the soil! If it were necessary, I could mention many more facts equally strong, that should militate against this theory.

But to show that writers upon agriculture entertain quite different views upon the same subjects, I will make a few extracts from a communication by James Corwin, as published in the Boston Cultivator of the 20th inst. Mr Corwin says, "In Ruffin's Survey of South Carolina, it is said, while advocating a change of crops, 'Corn seems to need *change* of soil *less* than any of the great crops.'" This, I presume, is the opinion of Mr Ruffin. And Mr Corwin says, in Lancaster co., Pennsylvania, a Mr Cooper "informed me of a crop of rye then growing in the neighborhood, the twenty-seventh year in succession, not having received a spade-full of manure during that time. On visiting this field, I found a good crop, clear from rust and heavy in grain, and not a weed in ten acres." Mr C. says: "To the remark that 'cut-worms in corn may be *destroyed* by continued tillage and a naked and open soil,' I beg to say, the cut-worm would not be found in corn, were it not planted in sward or sod land. The observation that corn or any other crop, 'breeds and nourishes insects,' I must say is quite in opposition to my views upon the subject." The above opinions are somewhat at variance with Mr Allen's views.

There is one other remark of Mr Allen's that I must advert to. He says—"Mr B. seems to doubt the practicability of raising a hundred bushels of corn on an acre, under any preparation or culture." I said, I have never been so fortunate as to *see* a hundred bushels of corn per acre, with the highest manuring and cultivation in this section of the country. But I cannot perceive how he or any one else can infer from that, that I have a doubt, or even the shadow of a doubt, that there have repeatedly been over a hundred bushels raised upon an acre. You well know, Mr Editor, that I commenced with No. 1, Vol. I. of the New England Farmer, and have been upon your subscription list, "through good report and through evil report," through all its changes of proprietors and editors down to the present time, and I believe I have read nearly every account of large crops of corn as published in the N. E. Farmer, for 22 years; and after reading so many well attested accounts, given by men whose character was above suspicion, men who would not knowingly deceive either themselves or the public in any of their statements, I say after reading so many accounts, if I should now have any doubt of the "practicability" of growing a hundred or more bushels of corn upon an acre, I should feel myself fully entitled to the appellation of the very prince of *doubters*.

L. BARTLETT.

*Warner, N. H., July 25, 1844.*

### PIP IN CHICKENS.

A fast friend of the "Farmer," writes to us thus:

*Sir*—Having had many chickens die this summer with the disorder called the "*Pip*," will you or some of your correspondents inform me what will prevent or cure it? As you are a physician, I expect you "know a thing or two" which I, a poor girl, am ignorant of.

Yours, cordially, in haste, for mother calls,

EMILY.

Well now, Emily dear, run and mind your mother, and we will tell you all that we know about the "pip." It is just nothing at all. We find that what one calls the "pip," another calls the "gapes," and another some other name, and so on. Why did n't you give us the symptoms, in order that we might have very gravely summed them up, and, duly considered, formed some "*diagnosis*" and "*prognosis*" of the case referred to? We have been told that the *gapes*, or what some call the *pip*, is caused by worms in the wind-pipe. We have had chickens stand and gape long, and wink long, and droop their wings, and "*yeep*" mournfully until they died, and we have opened them, but not a sign of a worm did we ever see. We do not say, mind ye, that they *never are* the cause of this disorder. This summer, we have had several chickens of the Royal breed, that became sleepy—drooped their wings, but did not gape any. They slept themselves to death. We were told to give them some soft soap in their dough, but it did not save them. If any of our correspondents can help Emily and *we* any in this thing, hope they 'll do it.—*Maine Farmer.*

☞A philanthropic impulse inclines us to give the Doctor and his "Emily *dear*," what little "help" we can. At one of the agricultural meetings at the State House, last winter, Col. Thayer, of Braintree, said, "the *gapes* originated from a small worm that gets into the wind-pipe and works its way down into the chest. He has made use of a feather moistened with one drop of spirits of turpentine, applied to the inside of the wind-pipe. Sometimes it would effect a cure, but not always. If too much spirits is used, it would destroy the fowl at once." In a receipt book we find it stated that a small quantity of assafœtida dissolved in water and mixed with the food, is a preventive and cure for the gapes.

From the American Agriculturist.

## IMPROVED FARMING IN MASSACHUSETTS.

During one of my late rambles in Massachusetts I made the acquaintance of quite a young man who was bred a mechanic, but left with a poor worn-out farm of 120 acres, before attaining his majority. He felt so incompetent to manage this farm, and the prospect of a fair return from it for his labor, was so unpromising, that he continued to work at his trade part of the time, and at grafting, (which he had fortunately learned,) and thus earned money enough to hire a man through the summer, and a stout boy through the year.

On his farm was one field of 20 acres, which had been cropped with rye every other year, producing from 4 to 5 bushels per acre; the next year it would be left to lie fallow. This he seeded with clover, pastured sheep upon it three years, then planted it with corn and potatoes, and made it completely mellow. After this crop was taken off in the fall, he sowed it with rye, bushed it in with a bush harrow made of white birches 20 feet long, inserted in a round pole 12 feet long, thus leaving the surface of the ground smooth and even. Plaster was then spread upon it at the rate of one bushel per acre, and the March following, one bushel of red-top and Rhode Island-bent, 4 quarts of timothy, and 20 lbs. of large clover, were sown to the acre. Every seed seemed to take, for such a mat of grass I have seldom seen upon land. It has been regularly mown every year since, and yields 2 to 2 1-2 tons of hay to the acre, besides a large crop of fall feed. His bog meadow he has drained and skimmed of its rubbish, carting the whole into his barn-yard, together with the muck from the ditches, and on this meadow now he has great crops of English grass. From under the old barn and sheds he has got out large quantities of saltpetre dirt; this he has mixed with other old manure, which has been accumulating for years, and with his yard manure, he collected a sufficient quantity to enrich several acres of loamy land, from some of which he has obtained 36 bushels of wheat per acre, and from 70 to 85 bushels corn, and on other parts of it seeded down to grass, it is now producing 2 1-2 tons, and in some instances 3 tons of hay per acre—and all these improvements have been brought about within a few years, without the aid of cash capital, or any other information than what he has gathered from reading agricultural papers.

Unless land can be properly prepared with manure and other stimulating articles, be plowed deep, well pulverized, judiciously seeded, and kept clear of weeds, it had better lie fallow. *Too much* grass seed, in my opinion, *is just enough.* This young man sows on his land intended for mowing, 20 lbs. of clover and 12 quarts of herds-grass per acre. I have been looking over some of the English statistics of practical agriculturists, on seeding lands to grass, and I find that in some instances they put on as high as 47 lbs. per acre of mixed seeds, while many of our farmers do not put on to exceed 10 or 12 lbs., one-half of which is frequently killed out by drought or freezing, and the stalks of the remainder are not near enough together to be neighbors, and after being mowed, the land looks like a barren waste.

I find four kinds of clover-seed used here in Massachusetts; the large Dutch, the June, the southern, and the white clover—all ripening at different seasons of the year.

A Traveller.

## PULLING OFF POTATO FLOWERS.

We observe that a letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Hereford Times*, by Mr W. Godsall, strongly recommending all persons interested in the potato crop, to pull off the flowers diligently as they appear. We beg to second that wish. All experience shows that flowers of the potato are produced at the expense of that organizable matter which gives its value to the tuber, and which is diminished in quantity in proportion to the number of flowers that have been fed; for flowers must exist and feed on something, and that something is what would, if not removed by the flowers, descend beneath the ground and collect itself in the tubers.

The mere production of flowers is a loss; but the mischief is infinitely increased if the flowers are succeeded, as they almost always are, by the berries. The actual amount of loss produced by each truss of flowers, is not ascertained; but it is probable that if the flowers abstract one ounce of organizable matter, the berries consume at least twice as much. Now, as potatoes are not grown for the sake of either the flowers or the berries, every particle of matter which is consumed by the plant in producing them, is a dead loss to the grower.

The man who makes his potato-ground feed flowers, prevents its feeding his children. Every ounce of matter consumed by the flowers, is so much taken from the consumption of the family.

We cannot just now, lay our hands on any precise evidence of how much is lost in this way. Mr Godsall assumes it to amount to many hundred weights, or even a ton an acre; but he is in all probability under the mark. A bunch of potato berries weighs, we will say, half a pound. Suppose that each potato plant bears half a dozen bunches; that makes 3 lbs. of worthless produce. An acre of potato ground carries about 20,000 plants on an average; this gives 60,000 lbs. of waste. But of this, 54,324 lbs. will be water, according to Mr Edward Solly's experiments, and only 5322 lbs. organic matter. The latter, however, or 2 tons 7 cwt. 58 lbs. would, according to this calculation, be the amount of loss sustained per acre, by allowing the potatoes to flower and fruit.

Admitting, however, that this is an excessive statement; supposing it to be wrong by even one-half—and it can hardly be so much as that—still there is the most ample evidence to show the immense importance of preventing the potato expending its energy in the wasteful production of parts which are of no sort of use for food.—*London Gardener's Chronicle.*

[The above suggestions, coming (as we presume they do) from the pen of Prof. Lindley, the celebrated botanist, are entitled to great consideration.]

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Pickling Cabbages.—Quarter the firm head of the cabbage; put the parts in a keg, sprinkle on them a good quantity of salt, and let them remain five or six days. To a gallon of vinegar put an ounce of mace, and one of pepper corns and cinnamon. Cloves and allspice may be added, but they darken the colour of the cabbage. Heat the vinegar scalding hot, add a little alum, and turn it while hot on the cabbage, the salt remaining. It is necessary to turn the vinegar from the cabbage several times, and scalding it, return it again while hot. This makes them tender. Purple cabbages, the heads not large, but fine and firm, are best for pickling.—*Alb. Cult.*

## TURNIPS AND TURNIP LIQUOR.

We do not know whether the common flat English turnip, as we call it, is any more nutritive in England than in America. We presume that there is no difference, and yet the farmers make great account of it in England, while here, most of our farmers despise it. It has been asserted that the culture of turnips has more than doubled the stock in Great Britain.

It seems that men so shrewd, and so well able to calculate profit and loss as the English are, would not cultivate this root so largely if there were no profit in it. They can raise every thing that we do, except Indian corn. Why then should there be so much difference in their and our mode of rearing and feeding stock? It may be answered, that their climate, being more moist than ours, enables them to raise turnips easier than we do; and their winters being milder, enable them to let their cattle run among their turnips and gather for themselves. We are willing to admit this, but at the same time remark, that all do not let their stock run out among them during the winter, but gather the turnips for the cattle; and some go so far as to cook them by steam, and find a profit in it.

We propose to give an abstract of a statement made by Col. Scobel, President of the Penwith Agricultural Society, on the subject of steaming turnips for his stock. He stated that he had tried this mode of feeding for twenty years, and that the more he tried it the more he was satisfied with it. He fed them, steamed, to his cattle, sheep, hogs and horses. His cattle amounted, for the last three years, to one hundred head, eighteen colts, seventeen horses, and about one hundred and twenty pigs. He stated that it did not require any more hands or help to steam and feed them out, than it did to feed without steaming. He said that he did not fatten his pigs on turnips, but asserted that he kept all his store pigs in good order by the drainage of his steam vat—that is, *the liquor* which was condensed and settled to the bottom. He did not steam the turnips over much, merely softening them. His theory is this: There is an acid in the raw turnip skin, which physics the animal too much. By steaming, he extracted this, and softened the outside, which was much better than steaming them to a pulp. He also stated, that when thus cooked, they could be given to any extent in any weather, and that they would have the same effect as oil-cake or hay and grain.

A Mr James, who lives neighbor to Col. Scobel, said he had also followed the plan, and for five years had fed his horses and pigs on steamed turnips, and he was satisfied that there was nothing so good for feeding store pigs as the *condensed liquor* which was drained from the vats. It must be remembered that he cannot obtain Indian corn there at a price which will warrant its use,—if he could, he would probably not have made such an assertion; but nevertheless, if the above statements are true, it is an object worth a trial even here, where Indian corn can be raised abundantly.

We give these statements to our readers, not because we know any thing in regard to the merits or demerits of the kind of food spoken of, but as agricultural news, and to let them know what the practice and views of farmers in other parts of the world are in regard to a root that is looked upon here, at the present day, with not very favorable eyes at least. Perhaps some of them may find themselves in a situation to give the plan a trial without much expense. If so, we hope they will do it, and let us know the results.—*Maine Far.*

## TIMOTHY, OR HERDS-GRASS.

*Messrs. Editors*—I herewith send you a bunch of herds-grass as a specimen, from a field which I turned over in September last and sowed to grass, with a top-dressing from a compost heap. You will see that the stalks are from 4 to 5 feet in height, and the heads from 9 to 12 inches long. The season has been uncommonly unfavorable for grass in this section of country; we have seldom had such a drought; our common fields will give only about half a crop. I send this as an evidence of the utility of the new method of laying down our grass land, which you may make such disposition of as you think proper. J. A. T.

*Medfield, July 9th*, 1844.

The above is a remarkable specimen of one of the most valuable species of the cultivated grasses, generally known and highly esteemed. The *new method* alluded to by our correspondent, has long been known and practiced. *We* have reason to know that to Elias Phinney, Esq., of Lexington, are the public indebted for the method of renovating their meadows by a process so simple and efficacious. No doubt the strength of our correspondent's crop, particularly in this unfavorable season, has been occasioned by the "top-dressing from a compost heap"—a secret worth knowing, and when properly appreciated, the practice will be general in the growth of every other crop cultivated.

With regard to the best time for cutting herds-grass for hay, even practical men are divided in opinion. In a late conversation with Mr Isaac Reeves, the proprietor of the large peach orchards in Delaware, to whom every practical man looks up with deference and the highest respect, he observed—"I will take an old piece of herds-grass that at present yields less than half a ton of hay per acre, and at the end of five years, without breaking up, fresh seeding or manuring in any way whatever, I will raise the crop to two and a half tons per acre; this I will do, by merely permitting the crop to stand until the seed will just vegetate before cutting. By mowing the crop sooner than that, the roots bleed and die out; and that is the reason why a second crop does not spring for a long time after. I once purchased the fifth part of the crop of Timothy on one of the islands in the Delaware, with the intention of cutting my lot at the time the other four purchasers did theirs, but I was called from home, and it was not done until the seeds would vegetate; I thought my hay was spoiled, but it was preferred to that of all others for horses' feed, and, behold the next year my lot of land yielded double the crop of the others, and at the end of five years it had increased to two and a half tons per acre, having overgrown all other grasses; a uniform crop, five feet in height, and preferred before all others at the market. Since that, I have never cut Timothy until the seeds will just vegetate."

Mr Phinney considers the hay best for dairy stock when cut early; for oxen and horses he prefers to let it stand longer;—the object in the first case being milk, in the last, flesh or strength; but then comes the grand consideration, the renovation of the crop, by *preventing the bleeding of the roots*—a new idea; and would our friends examine the subject, and give us the result for the columns of the Cultivator?—*Bost. Cult.*

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George Bancroft, Esq., the historian of the United States, is to deliver the annual address before the New York State Agricultural Society.

## MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

### EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

*Saturday, Aug. 3d*, 1844.

From Messrs. Hovey, Thunbergia alba, aurantica and alata; bouquets; Iberis coronaria, Pansies, and Poppies, in great variety.

From S. R. Johnson, a fine display of double Balsams, 9 varieties; Roses, Double-flowering Pomegranate, and other cut flowers.

From W. Nichols, Roxbury, extra fine Double Balsams.

From John Hovey, bouquets.

From Joseph Breck & Co., Phloxes of sorts; Rudbeckia fulgida, purpurea, nudicaulis and laciniata; Aconitum variegatum, Verbenas, Roses, Dahlias, Thunbergia alata and aurantica, Phlox Drummondii, Catananche cærulea, 10 varieties of fine Double Balsams, Tiger flowers, Didiscus cærulea, &c. &c.

From Miss Sumner. two bouquets.

From W. E. Carter, two superb varieties of variegated Seedling Phlox, and one of fine White; Pterocaulon pycnostachym, Lobelia cardinalis alba, (fine;) Dahlias, Rudbeckia purpurea var. and grandiflora, Convolvulus pandurata plena.

From Capt. Macondry, a fine show of Verbenas, including some beautiful new varieties.

From Parker Barnes, fine double Balsams, Dahlias, Oenothera, Nasturtions, Yellow Sweet Sultans, with other fine annuals, and a fine plant of Fuschia exoniensis.

From Samuel Walker, Roxbury, 7 var. of Seedling Phlox, some of them very fine; also, Phlox tardiflora, Carter's Seedling White, and other varieties.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, White Water Lilies; Dahlias, Marchioness of Exeter, King of Lilacs, Widnall's Queen, and other fine varieties; Gladiolus floribundus, carnea and ramosus, very superb; also, 16 bouquets, two of them very large; Lobelia cardinalis, Phloxes, and other cut flowers. One of the large bouquets was composed entirely of Dahlias, embracing 17 varieties.

From Wm. Kenrick, 3 fine bouquets and 2 baskets of flowers elegantly arranged by Miss Russell.

JOSEPH BRECK, *Chm'n.*

### EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

On Saturday last, the Hon. John Welles presented some specimens of Apricots, accompanied with buds of the same, which were distributed among the members. The specimens were not sufficiently ripe to enable the committee to form an opinion of their excellence.

Our tables were well supplied with fine specimens of Grapes, Apples, Plums, Apricots, Raspberries, and Pears, from various contributors, viz:

Plums, by Samuel J. Gustin, Esq., of Morristown, New Jersey, for a name. The large specimen the committee believe to be the same as the "Wheeler," and "Louis Philippe"—had it not been a free stone, the committee would have pronounced it the Nectarine Plum: the smaller specimen was the Apricot Plum.

Apples, by Hovey & Co., from G. R. Garvetson, of Flushing, L. I., called "John Garventous' Early Apple"—the specimens were not ripe.

White Whortleberries, from A. Wellet, of Providence, R. I., by J. L. L. F. Warren.

A dish of large green Apples, presented by the editors of the Cultivator, from the farm of E. G. Tucker, of Milton.

Figs, Franconia Raspberries, (fine) and Melons, from J. F. Allen, Salem.

By A. D. Williams, Roxbury, Bough, Benoni, Williams' Favorite, (fine) and other apples; Plums, Apricots, red and white Currants.

S. Pond, Cambridgeport, presented five specimens of Blue Mogul, Italian Damask, and Apricot Plums.

By John S. Sleeper, Roxbury, Italian Plums and Apricots.

By S. G. Whiting, Peach and Moorpark Apricots.

Apples, Early Bough and River, by James Munroe, of Cambridge.

By Cyrus Alger, South Boston, Cherries, Louis Philippe Plums and two varieties of Apricots.

Red Astrachan Apples, by A. W. Withington, Dorchester.

Apricot, Bolmer's Washington, Italian Damask (extra fine) Plums, by Wm. Thomas.

Plums, by Jno. Trask, Lynn, for a name: they have been shown here as the Catalina.

By Hovey & Co., fine specimens of Moorpark Apricots.

Citron des Carmes Pears, by M. D. Child, Lynn.

Grapes (fine,) by J. Nugent, Brookline.

By Wm. Richardson, White Gage Plums and extra fine Peaches.

Apricots and Yellow Gage Plums, from Mr Vandine, Cambridgeport.

Warren's Seedling Raspberries (fine,) Black Hamburg Grapes (fine,) and Apples, Sopsavine and River, by J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton.

By Parker Barnes, Apricot Plums.

By John Hovey, Apples, Williams' Favorite and Roxbury Russet, growth of last year, in fine order.

For the Committee,

S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

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*Harrison Rose.*—On the editorial page of last week's paper, our readers no doubt observed a paragraph as follows: "It is stated that the beautiful Harrison Rose originated in grafting the white rose on the barberry." This paragraph was inserted by the compositor to fill out the column, and was not observed by us until a number of hundred copies were struck off; we then added in a parenthesis, "Not a fact," as the most expeditious way of correcting so gross an error. As many copies were circulated without the correction, and as we would not suffer any thing to appear in our paper which we know to be incorrect, and calculated to mislead our readers, we make this explanation.

The method of producing new varieties is not generally understood. We have been informed, perhaps for the hundredth time, that black roses were made by budding on the black currant, yellow roses by budding on the barberry, and variegated tulips by drawing different colored silk, or worsted, through the bulb, &c., than which nothing can be more absurd or nonsensical.

All new varieties of fruits and flowers are produced by hybridizing, either naturally, which is not common, or by artificial aid, which is the most common way. We refer our readers to an article on hybridizing, from the London Gardener's Chronicle, which we shall copy into our next paper.—ED.

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*Schools in Massachusetts.*—The Exeter News-Letter says, "We have reason to believe that the cause of education is more flourishing in Massachusetts than in any other State." Such is doubtless the fact—and it is owing, in no slight degree, to the zeal and unwearied devotedness of Hon. Horace Mann, the accomplished Secretary of the Board of Education.

## AGRICULTURAL ADDRESS

*Delivered before the American Institute of the City of New York, Oct. 16th, 1843,*

BY J. E. TESCHEMACHER, ESQ., OF MASS.

(Concluded.)

It is well known among agriculturists that the use of lime has undergone considerable discussion; some asserting it to be of great value, others having found it of little or none. If lime be added to the manure heaps, one of its chief effects is to set free that substance so indispensable to vegetation, called ammonia: the odor of this is so strong that any farmer may satisfy himself on the subject by adding a spoonful of lime to a little manure. Now, abundance of ammonia is necessary for a crop to grow luxuriantly. Suppose a soil formed in a limestone region: it will of course contain plenty of lime, from the disintegration of the rock of which it is composed. When the farmer's annual deposit of manure is worked into the earth, there it always finds enough lime to liberate all the ammonia it contains. But he, knowing nothing, either of the composition of his soil, or of the action of the lime, reads that some farmer at a distance has used lime with great effect, and applies it, thinking it must be a good substitute for manure: he is disappointed, and throws the fault on the lime. Take now another soil, for instance, in a granite region, containing naturally a very little lime, which has been annually well manured. The whole of these annual deposits is certainly not exhausted by the crops which have been taken from the ground; there is, no doubt, much of it lying decomposed. Lime freely used on a soil like this, would prove of the greatest advantage—to use a simple phraseology, it would search out the undecomposed manure, and extract its valuable ingredient, ammonia, for the use of the crop. Here, then, the farmer would find lime most valuable.* It is, then, generally from ignorance of accompanying circumstances that such differences of opinion arise.

The practical application of science to agriculture, however, is yet in its infancy, but every year develops new ideas, and every successful result arising from its application, produces new proselytes to the opinion of its great value, and new students of its powers. England, with all its agricultural energy, is, I believe, yet far behind China in the quantity of its extracts of food from the soil—at least, if we may judge from the much denser population which finds subsistence in this latter country. It is a great stimulus to know that we have yet much to learn, and hence it is unquestionable that if a man presses forward in agriculture, particularly in this country, he cannot fail to signalize and advance himself, as well as to benefit the land of his choice or of his birth.

It would be unjust as well as impossible, for me to deliver an address on agriculture, without paying a passing tribute to the man who has in our day given rise to the more intimate union of agriculture and science; I mean Professor Liebig. It is at this moment rather the fashion amongst some, to decry his works—but although many of his minor positions, which, when he wrote, were considered generally as axioms of the day, are now found to be unsound—and although from the small period of twelve months which was given him to prepare on a subject for which ten years would hardly have sufficed, his works are therefore not written with the necessary precision it required—yet his main principles of the absorption by vegetables of ammonia and carbonic acid from the atmosphere, as also most of his broad assertions, must and will remain true. As well might they attempt to rob Newton of his fame, or Washington of his glory, as to take from Liebig the honor and merit of having by sound views and original investigation, determined the action of science towards the improvement of the most important occupation of man—AGRICULTURE—with an impulse which in its effects will be felt for ages to come.

The time alloted to an address will not permit me to enter into the subject of other substances proposed as manures, such as nitrate of soda, poudrette, ground bones, lime, charcoal, &c., on which I have experimented for the last two or three years, although not on a very extensive scale. I have learned from these sufficient, however, to assure the farmer that there is scarcely a soil existing, from the almost pure sand to the stiffest clay, which cannot, by proper application, be made to become fertile, and richly to repay the labor expended thereon; but there must be mental as well as bodily labor: each farm demands its own separate study: some spots require the assistance of drainage, others are improved by irrigation. In all, the intelligence as well as the industry of its owner, must be called into active play. Nor can I at all enter into the question of the value of different grasses—a subject of much interest to the farmer, and in which something has yet to be done in this country.

But one other subject remains which I wish to mention ere I conclude. I have spoken of guano and of lime. I have lately seen an implement invented this year by Mr Isaac Clapp, of Dorchester, Mass., which he calls, properly, a pulverizer. It is certainly an implement of much merit, and has given great satisfaction at the meetings where it has been exhibited, as well as to individuals who have seen it operate, and in whose judgment I have the highest confidence. It is a roller, loaded as heavily as is judged proper; behind this is a moveable frame, of a simple construction, managed with the hand by means of two handles. This frame is armed below with a number of strong knives, about four or five inches long. As the roller passes along, the knives are pressed into the soil by the hand, the roots and clods are cut to pieces, and the earth is beautifully pulverized, as if it had been done by spade husbandry. In case of meeting with stones or other impediments, the frame is lifted up, and passes over without trouble. This machine appeared to me so very well suited to this purpose, that I persuaded Mr Clapp to have a model made, which I forwarded three months since to Mr Colman, in England, to exhibit as a specimen of Yankee ingenuity. I have not yet heard from him on the subject.

I do not mention this machine for the purpose of puffing it into notice, for it is of so simple a construction, that Mr Clapp has no idea of reaping any benefit from it; but since I began writing this address, I have learned of its very satisfactory action at a meeting near Worcester, and while listening to the account, an idea struck me, which, as I have not seen Mr Clapp, I have not communicated to him; it is, that it would be a most excellent machine for incorporating into the soil guano, lime, nitrate of soda, or any other of these manures which are spread broadcast over the surface, and need some implement to put them slightly under the soil until wanted by the crop, that their virtues may not be wasted in the desert air.

I am very sure the points of agriculture which I have here introduced to your notice, have been very imperfectly dealt with, and many remain of course altogether untouched—but time warns me. I will therefore conclude by imploring every one engaged in this pursuit to take science by the hand, to employ the leisure hours of winter in obtaining a knowledge of some of its general principles, in attaining its habits of discrimination, in schooling the mind to its system of order, and to apply these steadily in experimenting on a small scale; for it must be understood, that unless experiments are made with the note-book in hand, with careful and constant examinations and observations made and noted, they are more likely to mislead than to be useful. Such observations must include every circumstance at all calculated to affect the result—as soil, situation, weather, &c.; the same may be said respecting experiments with cattle, their food, &c.

When the time arrives, and come it will soon, that the majority of agriculturists shall have attained considerable theoretical as well as practical knowledge on the subjects, then will come the time to which I have before alluded. Agriculture will shine forth as the most honorable and profitable occupation of mankind; its professors will be looked up to as a straight-forward, sturdy, independent class of men, constantly in the habit of exercising and maturing their powers of reasoning and judgment, men of a high state of education and of general information, from whom might be with confidence selected those fit to rule this or any other country. I am far from meaning even to insinuate that such is not in some degree the case now, but I look forward to a time when men of college education will turn to the plow as they now do to the learned professions, nay, and I may as well state it here, to the time when there will be either colleges for agriculture in every State, or agricultural professorships in every college in the Union. A few years—yes, my friends, a very few years—will elapse ere the importance of extensive and solid theoretical scientific knowledge to the agriculture of a State will become so apparent, that appropriate places for youth to study these things will, like railroads, be simultaneously established every where, and a college education will be as requisite for the cultivation of the soil as it is now for medicine, law, or religion. Then, and then only, shall we see agriculture take its proper stand in the nation. Then shall all feel that it is more honorable, and certainly more useful, to wield the plow and the reaping-hook than the sword and the gun, and to such a time do I wish the foregoing observation to extend. That those who follow agriculture, having *necessarily* received the liberal general education such institutions secure, will then be more universally fitted than even now, to fill with honor and success the highest offices which can be bestowed on them by their fellow-citizens.

*It is not intended to be asserted that this is the only, or even the most important general action of lime on the soil; we have much yet to learn ere we can come to perfectly satisfactory conclusions on this subject.

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*Drink for Haying.*—Let farmers who are now hard at work haying, have for drink, milk porridge with corn meal in it. This keeps off fever in the stomach, and is better for allaying a feverish thirst than almost any other beverage.—*Zion's Herald.*

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A great mind retracts an error as soon as it is discovered—a little one, never.

## DRAINING.

One feature of recent improvement was peculiarly gratifying, and in it I thought I perceived the influence of what is too often sneeringly called *book farming*; a term, I venture to say, was never sincerely used, but where stupidity or stubbornness reigned supreme. To a considerable extent, ditching and draining low lands has been practiced, and in every case with entire success. Land that before yielded scarcely a handful of coarse herbage during the season, by the expenditure of a few dollars in ditching and putting into a state of cultivation, has been made worth 50 to $150 per acre; almost invariably, the low swamp lands, when freed from water, are vastly the most productive. Much controversity exists as to the *mode* of draining best suited to our country, and the question yet remains unsettled. It is undoubtedly proper that the plan should vary with the situation of the land.

It would seem, on a hasty view of the subject, that the labored efforts of some well disposed persons to introduce the expensive modes adopted in Europe into our own country, are as inappropriate as if the attempt were made to introduce the paraphernalia of royalty, or a church establishment into our republican institutions. Their system is *thorough underdraining*, principally with tiles or loose stones, placed at a sufficient depth to allow a coating of soil deep enough for all the operations of husbandry to be carried on as if no drains existed; and this is undoubtedly the *perfection* of draining; but the expense of this in our country, would be from 50 to $150 per acre; an outlay so excessive that we apprehend for half a century to come, it cannot be practiced here unless in the neighborhood of large cities, where land is worth from 300 $600 per acre for cultivation, the price of good farming lands in Europe. The system *may* be applicable and advantageous to this country, and it is much to be wished that some wealthy and patriotic individual would institute a series of scientific and practical experiments on this subject, and communicate the result, and it is possible it might be found, after all the expense, the capital would be more judiciously invested than if expended in additional land, to be cultivated in our hurried and imperfect manner. If once, however, but generally adopted, our whole career of border extension and colonization must be abandoned, and the constantly expanding wave of emigration must contract and speed its refluent force centerward again, for we have *run around* land enough on this continent already, to sustain, with proper cultivation, a nation of untold millions. Can our national taste for adventure and western emigration be checked and turned into the more sober and perhaps rational pursuits of a highly cultivated husbandry? We think not—a truce then to undraining with us, for without the countless hordes that are yearly migrating westward, like the locusts of Egypt, we cannot pursue it to any extent.

There is much, however, we can do, in this matter, and at a trifling expenditure of manual labor. And here I will mention one mode of undraining, probably of Yankee invention, as I have never seen a description of it. It is performed in heavy clay lands, where ditches are more required, by excavating a trench, say of 12 inches wide, with perpendicular and parallel sides, to the depth of 12 inches; or if it is contemplated using a subsoil plough, to the depth of 16 inches, then from the centre of the bottom a sub-ditch is excavated, of 5 to 6 inches square. The sod taken of the entire width from the top is then inverted and placed at the bottom of the upper ditch, and becomes a durable cover when filled to the top, thus doing away with the large expense of tiles or stones.

Our system must essentially combine economy with utility, and this can be effected to a very great extent in *surface drains*. These should exist wherever water remains on the ground after rains, or when it is too much saturated with springs in the vicinity. No stagnant water should ever be allowed in a civilized country, for besides its effectual hostility to all useful vegetation, it poisons the atmosphere and becomes the prolific source of half our diseases and deaths. If a systematic course be pursued in all the operations of the farm, much draining may be effected with scarcely any additional trouble and expense. For instance, all clay and flat lands should be plowed into narrow ridges, and every successive plowing should be directed to make the more elevated portions higher, and the depressed one still lower, always preserving an outlet, that the water accumulated in the last should be carried off freely, and by this means the whole surface becomes a succession of surface drains without the expenditure of a day's labor to an acre. In many instances, however, main ditches will require to be cut for a considerable distance, to get sufficient depth and slope to carry off the water rapidly, and when the principal drain is made, the tributaries can be completed at a trifling expense, either with the plow and hoe or the spade. To illustrate my meaning, I will describe the manner of draining a piece of land I recently adopted. The lot consists of a stiff clay, running back from the Niagara river, with a gradual ascent of not more than five or six feet, for a mile. It is traversed through the whole distance with irregular undulations, but the ridges almost universally running parallel with the river. At right angles with the river, and across these, I run a ditch four feet wide at the top, two feet at the bottom, and from one to three and a half feet deep, so as to preserve a uniform descent on the bottom, thus cutting transversely all these longitudinal ponds, for they were nothing else in ordinary wet seasons, and a little additional work with the spade or plow, effectually carries off all the surface water. The whole expense of this does not exceed one dollar per acre. Now let us see the profits of this operation. If this land be worth $60 per acre, to cultivate in its original condition, and much of it has been sold at higher prices, and one-fourth of it was covered with water, which was generally the case to a sufficient extent to prevent the growth of nutritious vegetation—by expending one dollar I increase the productive land by the addition of another third to the original amount, which is equivalent to increasing the value of the investment one-third of $60, which gives me $20 gain for one expended.

I have seen an acre of marsh growing up with rushes and cat tails, that could be drained by one man's labor in two hours, and when done, it would be worth any two acres on the farm, and yet to this moment it has not got into the brain of the owner or a dozen of his intellectual predecessors, that this could or ought to be done; and it may have been the cause of half the diseases in the neighborhood for two centuries! These men have never been troubled with *book farming*—nor did they ever take the Cultivator; from such noddles, and such only, are we ever to look for hostility to either.—*Cor. Albany Cultivator.*

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He who lives *on* his money, is wiser than he who lives *for* his money.

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Comparative Value of Articles used as Food.—Professor Silliman has given a translation of M. Dombasle's experiments with several articles in feeding animals. Seven lots of seven sheep each were selected, of nearly equal weight, kept in separate divisions of the stable, the weight of each lot ascertained once a week, and the experiment continued five weeks. One of the lots was fed exclusively on lucerne hay, of which each sheep was found to eat 15 pounds per week. Each of the other lots received half the quantity of lucerne, and enough of other kinds of food named to keep them in good health, and of the same weight. The kinds of food used were, *dry lucerne, oil cake, oats and barley, raw potatoes, cooked potatoes, beets and carrots*; of these substances, the quantity found necessary to equal the half ration of 7 1-2 pounds of lucerne, withheld from all the lots excepting the first, was as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Oil cake, | 4 1-2 lbs. |
| Barley, | 3 1-2 " |
| Oats, | 3 " |
| Raw potatoes, | 14 " |
| Cooked potatoes, | 13 " |
| Beets, | 16 " |
| Carrots, | 23 " |

or in other words, 23 pounds of carrots were only equal to 7 1-2 pounds of lucerne hay, 4 lbs. of oil cake, or 3 pounds of oats. It may be remarked that the quantity of water drank by each lot of sheep was also accurately ascertained, and while those fed on grain and oil cake used during the experiment about 200 quarts of water to each lot, those fed on roots did not use 100 quarts; and those on carrots, only 36 quarts.

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The New England Farmer.—Since our last, this favorite periodicsl has commenced its 23d volume, and comes out in a handsome new dress. It is published at Boston, Mass., by Joseph Breck & Co., weekly, in a quarto form of 8 pages, price $2 a year in advance. This excellent old paper is so well known that it needs little praise from such a junior as we are; and all we can say is, the older it grows, the better it becomes; which if we can get any one to *think* the same of us, we shall be very glad indeed. We thank the Farmer for the elegant compliment it pays our correspondent, R. L. Allen, and think that not only *he* deserves it, but several others also who contribute to our columns, whom it might be invidious in us to mention. But why should it merely "*believe*" that *we* are "an experienced farmer"? We have been more or less directly engaged in farming ever since we were a child big enough to toddle into a field, and we should feel quite mortified, and totally inadequate to the task of editing this journal, did we not *know* something of the *practice* as well as the *theory* of agriculture. If it were not for boasting, we should, like the late honest Governor of old Massachusetts, to one who once doubted *him*, challenge the Farmer "to mow a field, or dig a crop of potatoes" against us by way of giving it a practical conviction of our knowledge of the farming art. Why, man, we can show you sickle-scars upon the *third* finger of our left hand, and axe-scars upon our lower limbs and toes, besides sundry other things too numerous to mention, by way of proof if you need it, that we are quite a *veteran* in the *practice* of agriculture.—*American Agriculturist.*

☞We are now fully convinced that Mr Allen is an "*old soger*"—in farming: that he has seen "*active service*," his "scars" attest: we trust he will not ask a "*discharge*" so long as he can "*do duty.*"

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, August 7, 1844.

## ROOT CULTURE—ROTATION OF CROPS—DEEP PLOWING.

We have as yet seen no writer disputing the necessity or utility of *manuring land* to keep up or increase its fertility; but it would not greatly surprise us if some one, to show his superior sagacity, *did* shortly attack this (generally considered) *settled* point in agriculture.

In one agricultural paper we find some writer attacking *root culture*;—in another, we see the doctrine of *rotation* assailed,—and in another, some one, bolder than all the rest, attempts to show that *deep plowing* is a "humbug"—or not what it has "been cracked up to be"—in fact, that it is detrimental to the farmer's interest.

Upon the first of these topics—root culture—we are aware some difference of opinion exists among farmers —and *good* farmers, too. We confess ourself on the side of the roots. We have cultivated them to a considerable extent—carrots and ruta baga especially—and our experience in their use has highly commended them to our favor. There is this advantage in roots, (aside from others,) which we consider of much importance: they enable us to get rid of a good deal of coarse fodder, by being mixed with it, while upon such feed the stock thrive as well as if kept on the best hay. We cannot join with those who think root culture unprofitable, though we have a high respect for the judgment of some who hold this opinion.

The expediency of a *rotation of crops* is also called in question, and by some seemingly ridiculed. In the article headed "Change of Crops," copied into last week's Farmer, a case was cited in disproof of the necessity of rotation, where rye had grown well on the same land 27 successive years. Now, the mere fact that a particular soil gives a good crop of one kind for many successive years, is no very conclusive proof to *our* mind, that the *principle* of rotation is not sound and well founded. We were once shown a field bordering on the sea-shore, which we were informed had continued to give excellent crops of grass yearly for 26 years, without the application of any dressing. Such instances are rare, and can only be regarded in the light of "exceptions to a general rule." Why, it is to this principle of rotation, judiciously carried out, that many of the English farmers mainly ascribe the great improvement which they have effected in their husbandry; and in our own country, where the proper "course" has been adopted, the rotation system has been found not only an improvement upon old customs, but one of the most important aids which the increased wisdom of the world has given to agriculture.

Rotation of crops is one of the most prominent features of the improved system of husbandry. Under the old method of farming, the land was cultivated without regard to the *nature* of the crops grown, and when it was thought that it required *rest*, the losing practice of *fallowing* was resorted to. But little importance was attached to the fact of one crop being more *exhausting* than another, or that it was good policy to succeed a crop which *left nothing* in the ground, by one that left its *roots*, to compensate in a measure for what it had taken from the soil. The rotation system was founded upon the utility of a change of crops for the benefit of the soil,—and we hazard little when we say that it has been found as profitable in practice as it is philosophical in theory. In these remarks we have no reference to the "excretory theory" of De Candolle, which, we think, is so far from being *proved*, that it is yet debateable.

Among other modern improvements (or so considered) now being attacked by certain writers, is that of *deep plowing*. This is one of the very last features of improved husbandry that we should have expected to see arraigned for faults. We had been convinced, from our own experience and the concurrent testimony of observing farmers, that deep plowing *was all* that it ever had been recommended to be by its most zealous advocates—an invaluable help to the farmer in improving the fertility of his soil, (of course increasing its products,) and saving expense for manure, or enabling him to apply it where more needed. We had convinced ourself—(and the conviction is as firm as ever)—that deep plowing and manure were the farmer's sheet anchor—his main reliances. We refer particularly to our Northern and Eastern farmers;—to those who till the prairie soil of the West, we have no reference.

To us it seems not a little surprising that this practice of deep plowing, which both here and on the other side of the Atlantic, has been considered, universally, so far as we are aware, as of the greatest advantage to the farmer, should now be decried by a writer, who, gifted beyond all others in the faculty of discernment, has discovered that it works the farmer no good.

However advantageous to our farmers may the culture of roots or rotation of crops, we deem either of these of less importance than the improvement of *deep plowing;* and we are quite confident that he or they who shall attempt to write it into disrepute, will find that it has secured too fast a hold on the favor of our enlightened husbandmen, ever to be abandoned for the old "shallow" system, which, (with all due reverence for *the departed,*) was indeed *shallow* in more respects than one.

## CUTTING BUSHES.

We are not philosophers enough to determine whether one month of the year is better than all others for the operation of cutting bushes; but, for some reason not clearly discernible to us, *August* seems to have the preference, in popular prejudice, over all other months. It was thought very material in olden time, (and some in our day still persist in so considering it,) that the *moon* should be in a particular stage when the important operation of bush-cutting was performed, in order that it should be effectual. This doctrine has got to be, (like many other *wise* conceits of our ancestors,) "more honored in the breach than in the observance," and the believers in Madam Luna's influence in this matter of bush cutting, are now, "like angels' visits, few and far between." We should as soon think of consulting the state of the *tide* in making soap, (were we engaged in the manufacture of the delectable *luxury,*) as to consult the state of the *moon* in cutting bushes. The one is full as rational as the other. But bushes in cultivated grounds *should be cut*, whether lunar influences affect the matter or not,—and as other writers recommend August for the operation, we will join in, and hereby remind our readers (though the almanac may have had the start of us,) that *August has arrived.*

☞In the American Agriculturist's condensation of foreign agricultural news, we find the following:

*Root Excretions.*—The most careful conducted experiments show that excretions do *not* take place from roots.

The quality of potatoes this year, is represented as excellent.

☞Washington recommended and urged the importance of establishing a *National Board of Agriculture.* In his speech on the opening of Congress, 5th December, 1796, he says, "It will not be doubted, that, with reference either to individual or national welfare, agriculture is of primary importance. In proportion as nations advance in population and other circumstances of maturity, this truth becomes more apparent, and renders the cultivation of the soil more and more an object of public patronage. Institutions for promoting it grow up, supported by the public purse; and to what object can it be dedicated with greater propriety? Among the means which have been employed to this end, none have been attended with greater success than the establishment of boards, composed of proper characters, charged with collecting and diffusing information, and enabled by premiums, and small pecuniary aid, to encourage and assist a spirit of discovery and improvement. This species of establishment contributes doubly to the increase of improvement, by stimulating to enterprise and experiment, and by drawing to a common centre, the results everywhere of individual skill and observation, and spreading them thence over the whole nation. Experience accordingly has shown, that they are very cheap instruments of immense national benefits."—*Amer. Agricult.*

Apology.—An article appeared in the N. E. Farmer, a fortnight since, over the signature of *Mercator*, which we deprecate and condemn. It is written in bad taste, to say the least. The communication was anonymous, and found entrance into the paper while we were absent on a journey, and of which we had no knowledge until we saw it, to our surprise and chagrin, in print. It would not be worthy of so much notice, perhaps, had it not appeared in unfortunate juxtaposition with the excellent address which we commenced publishing in that number. The writer, whoever he may be, had evidently read the address, and must have been in a pitiable state of mind to have given vent to such a mass of sickly puerile nonsense. If it was designed for an attack upon our estimable friend, the writer of the address, we must say it was a miserable one, and not worthy a moment's consideration. We regret its appearance, and had we been at home should have vetoed it at once.

*Bees Preserved from Moths.*—A correspondent of the Southern Planter says:—"To prevent the moth laying its eggs under the hive, I have for several years cut a mortise in the bench about an inch deep and about two inches larger than the hive, and the hive is then set in this mortise, and the space of about one inch all around it is filled with mortar, then three-inch auger-holes are bored in the hive about two inches from the bench, for the egress and ingress of the bees, and a small auger-hole through the bottom of the bench to let off water should any get under the hive. I have, near night, watched the moths attempting to enter through these holes, and seen the bees chasing them away."

*To Destroy Caterpillars on Gooseberries.*—Take six pounds of black currant leaves, and as many of elder-leaves, and boil them in twelve gallons of soft water, then take fourteen pounds of hot lime and put it in twelve gallons of water; mix these together; wash the infected bushes, and after that is done, take a little hot lime and lay at the root of each bush which has been washed, and thus complete the operation. By these means the caterpillars will be destroyed without the foliage being in the least hurt.—*Amer. Agricult.*

☞Don't forget the compost heap.

### MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

*Exhibition of Phloxes for premiums.*—The exhibition of Phloxes, for the Society's premiums, will take place on SATURDAY, Aug. 10th, instead of Aug. 17th as advertised in the schedule of Premiums.

JOSEPH BRECK,
Aug. 6. *Chairman of the Flower Com.*

### MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Society, held Saturday 13th inst., the following members were chosen a *Committee of Arrangements* for the coming *Annual Exhibition* ;—Samuel Walker, Chairman; P. B. Hovey, jr, Joseph Breck, E. M. Richards, Otis Johnson, John A. Kenrick, David Haggerston, Josiah Lovett, 2d, Capt. Macondry.

Attest,
July 13. 5w EBENEZER WIGHT, *Rec. Sec.*

### BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 5, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 470 Beef Cattle, 2800 Sheep and 425 Swine.

Prices — *Beef Cattle.*—We quote to correspond with last week. About the same prices were paid for a like quality. Extra $5. First quality, $4,75. Second quality $4,50. Third quality, $3,50 a 4,50.

*Sheep* —Dull. Lambs from $1,25 to 2. Old Sheep from $1,75 to 2,50.

*Swine.*—Lots to peddle, averaging about 85, more than half Barrows, 3 5-8 a 3 3-4. A lot of fat hogs from distillery, 3 1-2 At retail from 4 1-2 to 6.

### WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

*Corrected with great care, weekly.*

SEEDS Herds Grass, (nominal) per bushel Red Top 00 to 00 cents. Clover—Northern, 0 to 00c.—Southern. 0 a 0 c. Flax Seed, $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. The market closes firm for yellow Corn. Oats have arrived more freely, and prices realised early in the week, were not obtainable at the close; nothing doing in Rye, and prices remain nominally the same as before reported.

Corn—Northern. new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 52 a 53—do. do. white 50 a 51—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 65 a 70—do. Southern, 58 a 63 —Oats, Southern, 31 a 33—Northern do. 34 to 35—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 23 a 25—Bran, 18 a 20.

FLOUR. The demand has been light through the week, and prices not well supported.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 25 a 4 37—do. wharf, $4 25 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $4 25 a 4 37—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 25 a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 12 a 4 25—Alexandria. wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $4 37 a 4 50—Richmond Canal, $4 25 a 4 37 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 40 a 4 50— do fancy brands $4 50 a 4 62 — Ohio, via Canal, $4 25 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 20 a 3 25—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 62 a 2 75.

PROVISIONS. The transactions in Pork, since the last weekly report, have been to a limited extent, and prices are less firmly sustained.

Beef—Mess 4 1-0 new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 50.—No. 1, $5 50 a 6 00—do Prime $3 00 a 4 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $11 50 a 12 00 do. Mess, $9 50 a 10 00—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 18 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5¾ a 6¼— Hams, Boston, 6 a 00 — Southern and Western, 5 a 6—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

We hear of no sales of Fleece Wool, of any importance. Sales Pulled have been made during the past week, to a considerable extent, and our quoted prices are fully sustained.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 a 55 c.—American full blood do 43 a 47—Do. 3-4 do 40 a 42—Do. 1-2 do 37 a 40 -1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25—Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean. 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 42 a 45—No. 1 do. do. do. 37 a 40—No. 2 do do do 25 a 33—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

Market dull—sales limited, and prices nominal. The English advices per last steamer, are less favorable, the crop being considered in a very critical state—more inclination was manifested to purchase, and prices, in consequence, firmly supported.

1st sort Mass 1843 lb. 7 a 7½ ; 2d do 5 a 6.
HAY, 12 to 15 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 10 50.
EGGS. 12.

### GLASS SUPERCEDED FOR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Chemical Transparent water proof composition, for rendering Muslin, Cotton, or Linen, for the frames of Greenhouses, pine, melon or cucumber Stoves, &c., impervious to rain, or moisture, and admitting light equal to glass, the burning rays of the sun alone being obstructed. Houses, pits or frames covered with cloth prepared with this composition, embrace important advantages over glass. The light being equally diffused in every part of the house; plants placed on the floor have as much light as those close to the covering, consequently they are not drawn up as under glass, while they continue much longer in bloom, and preserve their delicate tints unfaded until the blossom falls. These facts are gathered from undoubted English authority, and so far as this prepared cloth has been tried in this country has given entire satisfaction, and no doubt will be instrumental of a very great improvement in the Horticulture of this country.

For framing of all sorts, as well as green houses, it will answer an excellent purpose, as it prevents the radiation of heat, and obstructs the burning rays of the sun ; it will give a congenial, moist atmosphere for plants in general. The cost is so trifling that it may be brought into general use for the growing of sallads, radishes, &c , and in a particular manner for Strawberries, Gooseberries and other small fruit which in our climate would be much improved by screaning from the burning sun.

This composition is prepared for the subscribers, by a person competent, and will be warranted equal to Whitney's imported from England.

For sale at No. 52, North Market street, at the Agricultural Warehouse, up stairs.
July 30. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## Annual Fair and Cattle Show,

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

*For the year* 1844.

To be held at Poughkeepsie, Sept. 17th, 18th & 19th.

TO THE FRIENDS OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

Between four and five hundred Premiums are offered for the best qualities of Agricultural Products of all sorts, Animal and Vegetable; and for Implements and Goods of Domestic Manufacture, whether household or factory—particulars respecting which premiums may be found in the Agricultural Journals and handbills. Many of the Premiums—on Cattle, and other things—are open for competition from other States.

Manufacturers of Woollen and Cotton Goods in New England, as well as in this State, and all others engaged in manufacturing articles anywise connected with the wants of the Farmer and Mechanic, may find the State Fair an advantageous opportunity for exhibiting samples of their productions. Persons intending to exhibit articles of any kind, should report to the Recording Secretary (Henry O'Reilly,) of Albany, as soon as practicable, free of postage ; so that adequate arrangements may be made for transportation. &c.

Admission to the Fair, one Shilling—or $1 for membership, which will allow admission to the member's family.

The facility of travelling and transportation by steamboats on the Sound and Hudson River, and by the Railroads connected therewith, (together with the liberality usually manifested by Railroad and Steamboat Companies on such occasions, with the arrangements for accommodating visitors at Poughkeepsie and other towns adjacent on the Hudson) warrant the belief that the immense throngs usually attending the State Fairs will be better accommodated at the next Fair than on any former occasion.

Editors are requested to notice the arrangements, for the benefit of their readers among the farmers and mechanics. Visitors to the Fair will find the excursion to and from, through the Highlands and by West Point, very pleasant ; and the most thorough arrangements will secure general satisfaction to those visitors while at Poughkeepsie.

July 17.

### CIDER MILL FOR SALE.

A first rate Cider Mill, with good Screws, in complete order, will be sold cheap, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
July 23.

### STRAWBERRIES :

The subscriber can supply all the most esteemed varieties of Strawberries now in cultivation. The present is considered a good time for the formation of new beds. The following are the prices per hundred plants ;—

*Hovey's Seedling*—a very superior variety, of large sized fine flavor, abundant bearer, and very hardy, $2,00
*Keene's Seedling*—Large fruit, very high flavor and high perfume, $2,00
*Bishop's Orange*—Fine size, abundant bearer and superior flavor. $2,00
*Elton Seedling*—Very large fruit of a superior flavor, considered one of the best in England, $2,00
*Myatt's Pine*—A delicious fruit, $3,00
*Early Virginia*, $1,00
*English Wood*, $1,00

Orders sent by mail enclosing the money will be punctually attended to, and the plants well packed for transportation. JOSEPH BRECK.
Boston, Aug. 6, 1844.

### BEMENT'S AMERICAN HOTEL,

NO. 100 STATE-STREET, ALBANY,

Is now open for the reception of company, having undergone a thorough repair and complete renovation from the cellar to the attic. It has been newly furnished throughout, and in quality of beds, cleanliness, and airy rooms, will now compare with any other establishment in the city.

In location, this House has many advantages, being situated in the centre, and on one of the most beautiful streets in the city ; within a few moments' walk of the Eastern and Western Railroad Depots and the landing of the Steamboats ; about midway between the Capitol, Public Offices, and the Banks, Post-Office, and the business parts of the city, renders it very convenient for the man of business, as well as gentlemen of leisure

The subscriber places much reliance on the countenance and support of the Agriculturists throughout the Union, who may visit the city, and pledges himself to spare no exertions to render their stay agreeable, should they favor him with their company.

Three Hills Farm will be carried on as usual, under my own superintendence, by a careful manager, and the breeding and rearing improved stock will be continued as heretofore. C. N. BEMENT.
Albany, June, 1844.

### GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. The difference in gathering a crop is so much in favor of cradling, that we must suppose that it will be the only mode adopted hereafter, and the grain cradle will become of as much use, as an implement of husbandry, as the plow now is.

There has been a very great improvement in the manufacturing of this article, they are now made on the most improved plan ; the scythe is well secured and finished in a superior manner and made of the best cast steel.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO,
June 4.

### LACTOMETERS

A simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office. JOS. BRECK & CO.

### GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N. Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

### HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use. For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.
51 and 52 North Market Street.

### HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

### CHEESE PRESSES.

Self acting and other Cheese Presses, of the most approved kinds, for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 52 North Market street, by J. BRECK & Co.

### SILK COCOONS WANTED.

The subscriber will *pay cash* for good Cocoons, assorted, and well flossed. They are worth, according to kind and quality, from $2 to $4 per bushel, measure rounded. J. R. BARBOUR.
Oxford, July 10.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### KEEP THE LOAF UNDER YOUR OWN ARM.

A TRUE STORY.

The following is copied from a New York paper printed in the year 1776, and is related as a fact. Similar cases often occur in these days, that a parent, having given his all into the hands of his children, is obliged to spend the remainder of his days in poverty and want.

"At this time there is living at Hærlem, an old man who relates the following remarkable story of himself. He was possessed of a pretty good farm, with slaves and every thing necessary for his business, and had but one child, a son, who, having married, it was agreed that the young couple should live in the house with the parent, as he was a widower. Things went exceedingly well for some time, when the son proposed to his parent that he should make over to him his estate, promising to build a new house and otherwise improve the farm. The father, through persuasion, gave him a deed or gift of it, and every thing belonging to it.

After a few years, as the father grew old, he grew a little fretful and dissatisfied, while the son thinking he had nothing more to expect from him, forgot his filial duty, and used his aged father worse than he did his servants. The old man was no longer permitted to eat at the table with his son and wife, but compelled to take his meals in the chimney corner, and continually otherwise ill-used by them. The old man ate his victuals daily from a wooden bowl, which his son had made for him. His grand-son saw his father make this bowl, and set about making just such another. Being asked by his father what he made it for, he answered, "For you to eat out of when you grow as old as grandfather." Although this ought to have turned his heart, and made him reflect that as he dealt by his father, he might expect to be dealt with by his children when he grew old, still it had no effect upon him, and the ill-usage to the old man was carried to such a height that he could no longer bear it, but left the house and went to a relation and neighbor of his, declaring that if his friend could not help him to get his farm back again, he should be obliged to come and live with him.

His friend answered that he might come and live with him, and, if he would follow his directions, he would help him to get his estate again. "Take this bag of dollars, carry it into your room, at your son's, shut it up well in your chest, and about the time you expect they will call you down to dinner, shut your door, and have all your dollars spread on a table in the middle of the room. When they call you, make a noise with them, by sweeping them from the table into the bag again."

The bait took completely. The wife had peeped through the key-hole, and saw the dollars spread out on the table, and told it to her husband. When the old man came down, they insisted on his sitting at the table with them, and treated him with uncommon civility.

The old man related to his friend what he had done, who gave him directions what to do if his son asked him for the money.

After a few days, the son discovered the old man very busily engaged in counting out his money, and at next meal time asked him what money it was that he had been counting.

"Only some money I had received for the discharge of one of the bonds I had standing out. I expect more in a few days, and I fear I shall be obliged to take Mr N——'s farm, upon which I have a mortgage, as he is not able to raise the money, and if the farm is sold, it will not fetch as much as will discharge the mortgage."

After a few days, the son told the father he intended to build a house on the farm, and would be glad if his father would let him have that money.

"Yes, child, all that I have is coming to you: I intend giving you the bonds and mortgage I have, but then I think it will be best to have it put all together in a new deed of gift. I will get neighbor L—— to call here and draw a new one."

Accordingly, his friend and cousin, who had devised the scheme, came to the house, and the son gave the father the deed, that another might be drawn of it. When the old man had got the instrument in his hand, in the presence of his friend he broke off the seal, and committed the writing to the fire, saying—

"Burn! cursed instrument of my folly and misery!—and you, my *dutiful* children, as this estate is all my own again, you must remove immediately, unless you will be content to be my tenants. I have learned by sad experience, that it is best for a parent *to hold the loaf under his own arm*—and that one father can better maintain ten children, than ten can a father."

---

*Holding one's own.*—Dr. Crusty and his friend Blinko were journeying towards the lake, last evening, in a cab. Now, Blinko, albeit *he* may think quite the contrary, is any thing but a handsome man, and upon this swings the point of our story.

"It is very seldom, doctor," said Blinko, musing, "it is very seldom that the promises of youth are realized."

"Do you think so, Blinko?" quoth the doctor.

"Most certainly I do," was the response. "Now, for instance, doctor," continued Blinko, "I was esteemed very ugly—extremely plain—when a child."

"You was, eh?"

"I was."

"Well, *I think you've held your own remarkably well!*" retorted the doctor, with more than his usual asperity. Blinko told the coachman to drive faster, and opened not his mouth again until they reached the lake.—*N. O. Pic.*


**JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,**

NEW ENGLAND
*Agricultural Warehouse*
AND
SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

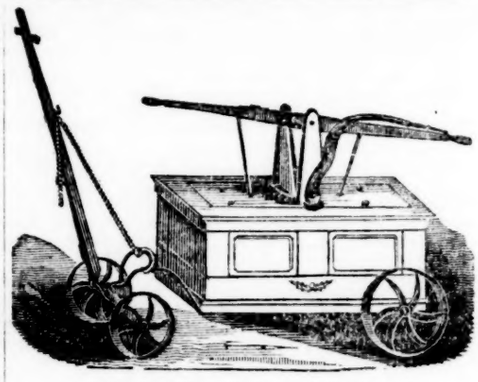
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz Scythe Stones, 3000 do Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.





**SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.**

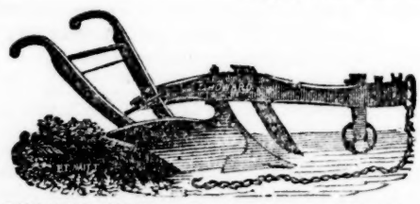
A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Boston, June 4.





**HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.**

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and tearing the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty-seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twenty-nine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.